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ACE Women's Business Center – Savannah Region Hosts Grand Opening

May 4, 2022 – The [ACE Women's Business Center - Savannah Region](#) (ACE WBC SAV), an SBA grant-funded center, held a grand opening event on Thursday, April 28, 2022 at the Georgia Coastal Center, located inside Savannah State University's School of Graduate Studies, in downtown Savannah. Clients were able to meet ACE [@acecdfi](#) senior leadership & SBA [@sbagov](#) representatives in-person, build rapport with the ACE WBC -Savannah Region office, and feel welcomed as a form of [#appreciation](#) for their support during our first year of operation. Speakers included:

- Nita Penn, Director, ACE WBC- Savannah Region
- Terri Denison, District Director, SBA Georgia District Office
- Allen Thomas, Regional Administrator for the Southeast Region, SBA
- Grace Fricks, President/CEO, ACE | Access to Capital for Entrepreneurs, Inc.
- Client Testimonials:
 - [Bluknowledge, LLC](#) | Erika Tate, PhD
 - [She Listens, LLC](#) | Samantha Smith
 - Vet2Logistics, LLC | Constance Kendrick
 - [Handyman Solutions, LLC](#) | Ron Hayes
 - [Eccentric Studio One](#) | Carl and Mamie Atkins

The event boasted a combination of ACE WBC -Savannah Region Clients*, Veteran Business Owners**, and local BIPOC Entrepreneurs as vendors, including:

[Latin Chicks*](#), [Dawgz For All & More*](#), [Ms. Fields Sweets & Treats*](#), [Los Potato Pies**](#), [Indulge Coffee**](#), and [Ashford Tea Company](#).

Conveniently located in downtown Savannah at the Coastal Georgia Center, the ACE WBC SAV serves small businesses in an 8-county coverage area: Bryan, Bulloch, Chatham, Effingham, Evans, Liberty, Long, and McIntosh. The mission of the ACE WBC is to empower women, minorities, and low-to-moderate income entrepreneurs through financial education and training, serving as a valuable resource for underserved business owners—from aspiring to established.

The Savannah WBC is part of the SBA's historic expansion of WBCs in 20 rural, urban and underserved communities across America. The ACE WBC is the educational arm of ACE | Access to Capital for



Entrepreneurs, Inc. and provides coaching, tools and resources for women business owners to sustain and grow their ventures in north Georgia, metro Atlanta, and the Savannah region. Since launching in April 2021, the ACE WBC SAV has met 80% of its goal, for the 2021-2022 fiscal year, for unique clients served via one-on-one consultations, cohorts, webinars, and trainings---and they're just at the midyear mark!

"We are grateful for our [ACE | Access to Capital for Entrepreneurs](#) senior leadership, and for the continued support of the [U.S. Small Business Administration](#) GA District Office and Regional Administration," says Nita Penn, Director, ACE Women's Business Center- Savannah Region. "Our clients and vendors were able to mingle and engage with local financial leaders and community & resource partners while showcasing their entrepreneurial strides. We are here as a launchpad. We are here to serve. Thank you to all who attended and to all who will continue to support our efforts to advance business acumen and financial education for our clients."

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About ACE Women's Business Center

The ACE Women's Business Center (WBC) is part of a national network of 140 WBCs in the country, all partially funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). ACE hosts two WBCs in Georgia, one in Metro Atlanta area, and one that covers the Savannah region. At the WBCs, we work with start-ups and existing businesses and focus on 3 phases: Planning, Implementation and Growth. At ACE WBC we love to champion women and be able to support them through their entrepreneurship journey! Women are crucial to the economy of this country and our work is to support underserved Georgia entrepreneurs with education, tools, resources, access to capital, and to establish opportunities to help them develop and grow their businesses. For more information, visit <https://aceloans.org/wbc/>.